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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/610,033	07/05/2000	Noriki Tachibana	00491/HG	4239

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EXAMINER

JACKSON, MONIQUE R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1773

DATE MAILED: 05/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/610,033

Applicant(s)

TACHIBANA ET AL.

Examiner

Monique R. Jackson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 15 and 16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-14, 17 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed 3/14/06 has been entered. Claims 19-20 have been canceled. Claims 1-6 and 8-18 are pending in the application. Claims 15 and 16 have been withdrawn from consideration.
2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Claims 1-6, 8-14 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for the reasons recited in the prior office action and restated below wherein the specification, while being enabling for a dynamic coefficient of friction of the cellulose ester film as measured according to the specification, does not reasonably provide enablement for a dynamic coefficient of friction under any testing conditions. As discussed in the prior office action, the specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. According to the original disclosure at the time of filing, the instantly claimed invention has a dynamic coefficient of friction of 0.3 to 1.5 when measured **between the front face of a film and the reverse face of another film** utilizing a specific loading weight and drag velocity (refer to Page 30 and the paragraph bridging pages 41-42.) In fact, the specification clearly recites at Page 30 that **the measurement is commonly performed utilizing a metal ball however the instant invention requires the dynamic COF to be measured between the film as the sample and the film as the friction measuring material**. Hence, the instantly claimed dynamic coefficient of friction

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range recited corresponds only to the particular testing conditions utilized at Pages 41-42, and not under the common testing procedures or any other testing conditions.

Terminal Disclaimer

4. The terminal disclaimer filed on 3/14/06 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of USPN 6,652,926 and USPN 6,828,006 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded. Hence, the double patenting rejections recited in paragraphs 9-10 of the prior office action have been withdrawn.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 3/14/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. With respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph, it is noted that the Applicant amended independent claim 1 to specify that the claimed dynamic friction coefficient is measured in accordance to JIS-K-7125 (1987). However, as recited in the prior office action and evidenced by the Applicant's specification and the JIS document, the dynamic friction coefficient is also dependent upon the facing material against which the sliding material is placed. Hence, though the Applicant has added that the dynamic friction coefficient is measured in accordance to JIS-K-7125 (1987), it is noted that the JIS testing method does not limit the facing material to the same film material as the sliding material, as in the instant invention. Therefore, the Examiner maintains the rejection with respect to independent claim 1 and those claims that depend from claim 1. The Examiner further notes that independent Claims 13 and 14 were not amended to include the JIS testing method and hence remain rejected for the reasons previously recited.

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6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

7. This application contains claims 15-16 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Monique R. Jackson whose telephone number is 571-272-1508. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays, 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carol Chaney can be reached on 571-272-1284. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Monique R. Jackson
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 1700
May 16, 2006